

Problem:

Do you trust God? really? Actually?

we are called to be different; aliens in our essential character - which is a sign of our trust in Him rather than the world

the problem is - if we don't really think like Him when it obviously makes sense, if we don't really act like Him when it is convenient, if we don't really trust like Him when the cost is low, what is going to happen when it doesn't make sense, when it's inconvenient, when it hurts? We are called to be different; aliens in our essential character...when we suffer

Text:**The Same Way of Thinking**

1Pet. 4:1 ¶ **Since therefore Christ suffered in the flesh, arm yourselves with the same way of thinking**, for whoever has suffered (crucified) in the flesh has ceased from sin, (Gal 5:16-23)

1Pet. 4:2 so as to **live for** the rest of the time in the flesh no longer for human passions but for **the will of God**.

1Pet. 4:3 For the time that is past suffices for doing what the Gentiles want to do, living in sensuality, passions, drunkenness, orgies, drinking parties, and lawless idolatry.

1Pet. 4:4 With respect to this they are surprised when you do not join them in the same flood of debauchery, and they malign you;

1Pet. 4:5 but they will give account to him who is ready to judge the living and the dead.

1Pet. 4:6 For this is why the gospel was preached even to those who are dead, that though judged in the flesh the way people are, they might live in the spirit the way God does. (Eph 2:1-10; col 2:13-15)

(1) suffered in the flesh - crucified the flesh - gal 5:16-23

(6) those who are dead - eph 2:1-10; col 2:13-15

Same way of...

Christ put the will of God over His own will...even if it meant suffering

- Jn 4:34; 5:30; 6:38-40; matt 26:39-44; -> matt 7:21; 12:50

The Same Way of Acting

1Pet. 4:7 ¶ **The end of all things is at hand**; therefore be self-controlled and sober-minded for the sake of your prayers.

1Pet. 4:8 Above all, **keep loving one another** earnestly, since love covers a multitude of sins.

1Pet. 4:9 **Show hospitality to one another** without grumbling.

1Pet. 4:10 As each has received a gift, use it to **serve one another**, as good stewards of God's varied grace:

1Pet. 4:11 whoever speaks, as one who speaks oracles of God; whoever serves, as one who serves by the strength that God supplies—**in order that in everything God may be glorified through Jesus Christ**. To him belong glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.

Christ put others over Himself...even during suffering

Mk 10:35-45; Jn 13:1-17; 19:23-27

The Same Way of Trusting

1Pet. 4:12 ¶ Beloved, **do not be surprised at the fiery trial when it comes upon you** to test you, as though something strange were happening to you. (coming to us likely too)

1Pet. 4:13 But **rejoice** insofar as you share Christ's sufferings, that you may also **rejoice** and **be glad** when his glory is revealed.

1Pet. 4:14 If you are insulted for the name of Christ, **you are blessed**, because the Spirit of glory and of God rests upon you.

1Pet. 4:15 But let none of you suffer as a murderer or a thief or an evildoer or as a meddler.

1Pet. 4:16 Yet if anyone suffers as a Christian, let him not be ashamed, but let him **glorify God** in that name.

1Pet. 4:17 For it is time for **judgment to begin at the household of God**; and if it begins with us, what will be the outcome for those who do not obey the gospel of God?

1Pet. 4:18 And

“If the righteous is scarcely saved,
what will become of the ungodly and the sinner?”

1Pet. 4:19 ¶ Therefore **let those who suffer according to God's will entrust their souls to a faithful Creator while doing good.**

(14-18) **Implication** - judgment at the household of God - Ezek 9:1-6; matt 5:1-16

*Christ continued entrusting Himself to God and had joy even in the face of suffering
- 1 Pet 2:21-23; Heb 12:1-2*

Application: IN Christ - 1 Cor 2:14-16; (1 Peter 3:18-22); Phil 2:1-5

Main Idea:

Our goal is not merely to think like Christ, but to do so when it doesn't make sense

Our goal is not merely to act like Christ, but to do so when it isn't convenient

Our goal is not merely to trust like Christ, but to do so when it hurts

Judgment begins at the household of God

this is not optional- it is not a special kind of Christianity but the real thing - Ezekiel 9:1-6

It is not a special style or emphasis but the very fabric of the Christian life, and suffering is the arena that proves it - Matt 5:1-16; 1 Pet 1:3-9

Main:

end: who for the joy set before Him -

Aim to think, to act, and to trust, like Christ...especially when you suffer- 1 Peter 2:21-23 (**MAIN**)

Implication:

-> Christ went to the cross with joy because he believed that God was for Him. that no matter how hard it got He would be vindicated in the end. He trusted in the care of God and faced suffering knowing that God is a faithful Creator - Heb 12:1-2

Application:

how much more on this side of the cross ought we to trust Him? to think like Christ, to act like Him and to trust like Him even in the midst of suffering?

-Romans 8:31-32

thinking like a Christian is much like walking in the mind or desires of the Spirit not the desires of the flesh. Here is a good article about thinking like a Christian or desiring what God desires:

<http://www.desiringgod.org/sermons/the-war-within-flesh-vs-spirit>

The opposite of trusting God when suffering comes is worry. Here is a good article about worry:

<http://www.gty.org/resources/articles/A112/A-Worried-Christian>

I mentioned how much more we ought to trust God in light of Romans 8:31-32. Here is an article with more reasons to trust God even in suffering:

<http://averageus.com/2013/05/14/gods-will-and-your-big-stupid-mistakes-4-things-to-remember/>